

ORNITHOLOGICAL LITERATURE

WILD BIRDS AT HOME. By Francis Hobart Herrick. D. Appleton-Century Co., New York. 1935. Pp. i-xxii+1-345. Figs. 1-137, and frontispiece. Price, \$4.00.

Those who were interested in bird study thirty years ago will remember Dr. Herrick's book, "The Home Life of Wild Birds". In some ways this book marked the beginning of a new period in ornithology. It taught the growing hosts of bird students how to use the bird-blind. The reviewer has never been quite certain who is entitled to the credit for the introduction of the tent-blind or umbrella-blind. But there is glory enough for all, and Dr. Herrick's practical demonstration of the method must have stimulated many other workers in the same direction. The three decades since have witnessed more careful and more critical study of the bird as a living animal than in all previous time.

Dr. Herrick's present work is perhaps not so much an exposition of a method, as a summary of the results of the method developed thirty-odd years ago. It is a book which discusses the most profound problems in bird behavior, and yet one which may be taken to an easy chair and read for hours without mental fatigue or monotony. Practically all phases of the bird's home life are discussed, and with more than ordinary understanding of the psychological principles involved. The numerous illustrations are new and original. Literature citations are given in foot-notes, rather than in a terminal bibliographic list. Dr. Herrick has made another contribution to ornithological literature.—T. C. S.

ZUR BIOLOGIE DES REPHUHNS (Biology of the Hungarian Partridge). By Dr. W. Nolte. Published under the auspices of the Reichbundes Deutsche Jägerschaft (National German Hunters' Association). Publisher, J. Neumann, Neudamm, Berlin, 1934. Pp. 105.

This new booklet on the biology of the Hungarian Partridge (*Perdix perdix*) in Germany should be of particular interest to American ornithologists and sportsmen for two reasons.

First, it parallels the University of Michigan's recently published study of this bird by Yeatter,¹ and the Oxford University study now under way by Middleton,² without any awareness of similar work under way in the English-speaking countries, or vice versa.

Secondly, it illustrates certain basic differences in game management research, organization, and methods, from which mutually profitable deductions may possibly be drawn.

Dr. Nolte's study was undertaken because the 1932 partridge crop was bad, and the 1933 crop spotty. (This illustrates an important point: game research in Germany is a matter of finding the cause of specific difficulties encountered in actual practice; with us it is an attempt to build comprehensive biological foundations for a practice which is hoped for, but does not yet exist).

¹Yeatter, Ralph E. The Hungarian Partridge in the Great Lakes Region. Bul. No. 5, School of Forestry and Conservation, Univ. of Michigan, Ann Arbor. December, 1934.

²Middleton, A. D. The Population of Partridges (*Perdix perdix*) in 1933 and 1934 in Great Britain. Jour. Animal Ecology, Vol. 4, No. 1, May, 1935, pp. 137-145.